GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1652
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2017
Investment Meets
Jena Shri Rabindra Kumar

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of investment meets organized by Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) in different countries during the last three years and the current year, country and year-wise;

(b) the achievements of OIFC in promoting and facilitating economic engagement by Overseas Indians;

(c) the total investment made by NRIs during the last three years and the current year, year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to encourage NRI investment in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) The Overseas Indian Facilitation Centre (OIFC) was set up in 2007 as a not for profit Trust in Partnership with Confederation of Indian Industry (CII). Following merger of erstwhile MOIA with the Ministry of External Affairs in February 2016 and transfer of work relating to promotion of investment in India by overseas Indians to Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, it was decided with the approval of the Cabinet to wind up OIFC. The organization ceased to exist from 30 March 2017.

However, the information sought for is as follows:-

Year Investment Meet Country
2014-15 1) Diaspora Engagement Meet, Manama, 06.09.2014
2) Regional Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, London, 16.10.2014 Bahrain

U.K.
2015-16 1) Overseas Meeting with Indian investors and businessmen, Dubai, 17.10.2015
2) Regional Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Los Angeles, 14.11.2015 UAE

USA
2016-17 Nil
2017-18 Nil. OIFC was closed down on 30.03.2017.

(b) The objectives of the Investment Meets was to engage with prospective overseas Indian investors and inform them about the facilities and benefits available to them for investment in India. OIFC's activities were utilised to facilitate economic engagement of overseas Indians with India; advise them about investment opportunities; and facilitate their business partnerships in India. Data about investments made by overseas Indians in India is not maintained by the Government.

(c) Information about investments by Non-Resident Indians is given below:-

(Amount in Rupees crore)
Financial Year Investment by NRIs as FDI in India

NRI Investments in Stock Exchange in India
Purchases Sales Net Position
2014-15 1,054.11
12629.20 25233.90 -12604.70
2015-16 1,675.95
13406.00 6590.60 6815.30
2016-17 991.36
14889.30 10244.90 4644.30
Total 3,721.42

40924.50
42069.40
-1145.10

Source: Reserve Bank of India

(d) The Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce & Industry has put in place a liberal and transparent policy for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), including investments from Non-resident Indians (NRIs), wherein most of the sectors are open to FDI under the automatic route. The policy allows special dispensation for NRI investments in the sector of townships, housing, built-up infrastructure and construction-development projects (which include, but are not restricted to, housing, commercial premises, hotels, resorts, hospitals, educational institutions, recreational facilities, city and regional level infrastructure), without the conditionalities attached to FDI in such projects. It also allows a special dispensation for NRI investments in the sectors of Scheduled Air Transport Services, Domestic Scheduled Passenger Airlines, Non-Scheduled Air Transport Services, Non-Scheduled airlines, Chartered airlines and Cargo airlines, wherein 100% NRI investment is permitted under the automatic route. Further investment made by NRIs on non-repatriation basis under Schedule 4 of Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA) Regulation is deemed to be domestic investment at par with the investment made by residents.